



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 2, 2006

H.R. 5883

Drake Well Sesquicentennial Commission Act

*As ordered reported by House Committee on Government Reform
on September 21, 2006*

H.R. 5883 would establish a commission and advisory board to assist in the planning, development, and coordination of the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the discovery of oil at the Drake Well near Titusville, Pennsylvania, on August 27, 1859, and the resulting development of the American petroleum industry. For the commemorative activities, the bill would authorize the appropriation of about \$3.6 million over the 2007-2010 period.

The commission, consisting of nine members, would have until September 2010 to report on its activities and recommendations to the Congress. The advisory board, consisting of 20 members—seven members from the executive branch and 13 appointed by the President, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, and the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives—would assist the commission. All commission and advisory board members would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, the commission could hire staff or use personnel detailed from other federal agencies. The commission would terminate 60 days after submitting its final report. H.R. 5883 would direct the Government Accountability Office to perform an annual and final audit of the commission.

Assuming the appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that the commission would spend about \$1 million in 2007 and about \$3.6 million over the 2007-2011 period. Because H.R. 5883 would authorize the commission to accept and use gifts, the legislation could affect revenues and direct spending. CBO estimates, however, that any revenues from contributions and subsequent direct spending would be less than \$500,000 annually and would offset each other over the four years of the commission's activities.

H.R. 5883 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.